

NEW CHRISTIAN

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EDITED BY KENNETH LESLIE

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By Louise Harding

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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STRAUSS AND TELLER EXPOSED

By Louise Harding

Atomic Energy Commission (Lewis Lichtenstein Strauss is its only authorized public voice) put out a statement that its minor underground bomb, exploded in Nevada last September, was detectable by instruments within a radius of only 250 miles.

Thus the AEC backed up the "Father of the Hell bomb", Dr. Teller, in his argument that with such subterranean blastings the wicked Russian Communists could easily violate any agreement made with the invariably trustworthy and truthful U.S. Capitalists.

The fact, however, is that the waves of the explosion actually were picked up 2300 miles away, in Alaska.

S.F. Chronicle, Mch 14, under the editorial heading "What Does AEC's Chairman say?" mentioned that a "nameless, faceless 'spokesman' of the AEC" (evidently Strauss) "said the error was inadvertant, not deliberate," but that two members of the Joint Atomic Energy Committee, Sen. Clinton Anderson and Rep. Chet Holifield, have formally demanded a hearing on the matter. Says the editorial:—

"Chairman Strauss should be called to account for an announcement which, if it had gone uncorrected, might have foreclosed consideration of a Soviet-American ban on nuclear testing."

Considering the seismological data received from various stations after the shot, The Chronicle finds itself unable to understand how the misstatement could have been a mere blunder. But, the paper asserts, "it is even more difficult to believe that these facts were deliberately concealed so as to make the banning of nuclear tests appear undesirable."

Not for some of us! Not if you remember that Strauss, who practically runs the Commission, is a Rockefeller man. So is Dulles, and his policy is WAR—with China particularly, where the Rockefellers under Chiang had tremendous concessions and influence.

It was Strauss who, in 1954, tried to minimize the Bikini H-bomb explosion as only slightly larger than calculated (it "never got out of hand, said he)—though it appears to have been twice as great as calculated.

He also (mis)informed us that the atomic poisons released by the catastrophic blast, after rising high in the air, floated away harmlessly over the Pacific, to be heard from—quoth that Raven—Nevermore. We now know that they are still going round and round the earth, descending with rain, to contaminate our food and enter our very bones.

The Almighty Job

Under the impetus of The Chronicle's demand for a Congressional investigation of AEC, a radio item, the next day, reiterated that it was all just an honest mistake. Honest—my foot! as the Britisher would say. Not all of us were born yesterday, Mr.

Strauss! And if it were honest, what a gang of incompetents at Washington would be gambling with our lives!

This radio report gave the figures involved as 250 and 2500 (not 2300), with apparent intent to mislead the unthinking to believe a mere clerical error was involved. This in itself is significant of fraud.

Also to be sharply observed is it that from the various stations which made reports from distances 1000 miles away and more, *no public contradictions came when the 250-mile figure was put out.*

This is the way the people of this "democracy" are gulled. The officials of those stations quite evidently are willing to see the whole world cinderized, themselves included in the holocaust, rather than risk losing the favour of those who portion out the Great, Almighty Job. Such is life in a "free" country whose natural resources rest in the pockets of a mere handful of all-powerful men, while most other citizens "peer about, to find themselves dishonourable graves."

What Does AEC's Chairman Say?

The now admitted error of the Atomic Energy Commission raises grave questions about the statistical competence of AEC reports and therefore about the factual foundations of the foreign policy of the President and Secretary of State in certain of its phases.

Neither Chairman Lewis L. Strauss nor any other top official of the AEC has yet been heard from in explanation of how the commission's totally misleading report about last September's mine-tunnel shot happened to be issued.

The United States Government must soon make up its mind whether to treat with the Soviets at the summit on their offer to ban nuclear tests and permit inspectors to enter their country to check on compliance. If underground atomic tests can be detected only 250 miles away, manifestly such an arrangement might not prevent the Soviets from getting away undetected with experiments in violation of the test ban. But if a small blast like last September's in the Nevada mine tunnel can be picked up by every seismograph within 1000 miles, obviously the monitoring of a nuclear test ban becomes a more manageable problem. If the range is 2000 miles—and the Nevada test was actually recorded 2300 miles away in Alaska—the problem becomes even more manageable.

It was Harold E. Stassen, lately the President's disarmament adviser, who revealed to Senator Humphrey's Foreign Relations Sub-committee on Disarmament that the very small Nevada test shot had been picked up everywhere within a thousand-mile radius. Yet several days after Stassen's statement had been made the AEC's official report was issued, saying that Los Angeles, 250 miles away, was "the maximum distance at which the shock was recorded." Evidently they should have kept Stassen on the job.

While such mistakes (?) are being made, planes loaded with H-bombs continue to cavort over our defenseless heads. This is what is termed "national security"!

RED SCARE RAVINGS

A NOTE ON MEDINA

By James L. Brewer

Any lawyer seriously concerned with the grave constitutional issues of civil liberties in America today must strongly question the propriety of an address of the U.S. Court of Appeals Judge Harold R. Medina delivered not long ago before the Rochester Bar Association on his experience with the Communists in the celebrated first trial of Communist leaders under the Smith Act prosecution over which he presided.

Judge Medina's speech was billed to the title, "A View of America", but issued in fact as a vehement recital of personal emotions showing a state of mind in good part hostile to defendants and their counsel, and in a self-glorification of his conduct of the trial in question.

Authoritative illumination of Judge Medina's attitude in the trial in question are words in the case of *Sacher v. United States* 343 U.S. 1, which involved the appeal of the defense lawyers in the Dennis case from their conviction of contempt by Medina, where Justice Douglas said in his dissent:

"I agree with Mr. Justice Frankfurter that one who reads this record will have difficulty in determining whether members of the bar conspired to drive a judge from the bench, or whether the judge used the authority of the branch to whip-saw the lawyers, to taunt and tempt them, and to create for himself the role of the persecuted."

And there was the statement of Court of Appeals Judge, Charles E. Clark, who, in dissent from affirmance by the Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit of the disbarment of Henry Sacher, a defense attorney, from the Federal courts (a disbarment subsequently reversed by the U.S. Supreme Court in *Sacher v. Association of Bar of City of New York*, 347 U.S. 388).

"It is now well known that there has been criticism in the highest circles of the judicial conduct of the Dennis case on the ground that the judge himself engaged in the alterations with counsel, and even to a certain extent promoted them."

206 F. 2d, 358 365

One may derive from a book entitled, "The Communist Trial an American Crossroads," by George Marion, Fairplay Press, a sufficient reproduction of the record of it, edifyingly covering the atmosphere of it referred to by the higher judges named above.

The Red scare ravings by Judge Medina of deepening subversion menace to the nation seem hardly in keeping with the late striking decisions of the United States Supreme Court in historic rebuke of the inquisitorial committees of Congress, as operating in perversion of sacred civil rights guarantees of the

American constitution to render travesty of legal process the co-ordinate Court political conspiracy prosecutions, particularly such as that to fall to Judge Medina's lot.

COME THE MORNING

"My Native Grounds," the autobiography of Royal W. France, is an inspiring book. This man with the impossible name has shaped his life so that its telling has the quality of an adventure story.

When circumstances had made a corporation lawyer out of him he calmly broke the chain that bound him and became a teacher of economics. Later, seeing his country in peril, he issued forth from the academy to defend the basic law. Not only twice-born but thrice-born, and apparently still developing.

Seeing him in Moscow last fall in the company of a distinguished group of American visitors, he appeared to be looking forward rather than backward.

Would to God the young-in-years on this continent could catch some of his youth-in-spirit! What a fine thing it would be if the students in our law schools could get hold of this book!

The high point of France's career came with his defense of the Communist martyrs of the Smith Act and the Cold War hysteria. At the conclusion of one of these trials, in his appeal to the jury, after tearing the government's case to shreds, and feeling that he was making headway in spite of the presence of the "thirteenth juror", prejudice, he said, "There is a stanza in the national anthem which asks a question, 'Oh, say does that star-spangled banner still wave o'er the land of the free and the home of the brave?' I expect you to answer that question in the affirmative."

They answered in the negative, however, as Roosevelt answered when Spain was murdered by clerical-fascism, as Truman answered at Hiroshima and in Korea, as Eisenhower answered when the Rosenbergs were crucified.

France mentions a certain juror in his last case, "a woman who was a member of the Ethical Culture Society. As I had looked into her strong but kindly face when I was addressing the jury, I had felt sure that she understood. When she was asked if she agreed with the verdict and replied with a firm "I do" my cup of bitterness was full."

In this moment of defeat France sorrowed for his clients, but he sorrowed more for America and for humanity.

"The promised land of tolerance and brotherhood seemed still afar off. It has seemed so through the ages, I knew, and others besides our little band had suffered defeat as we had endured it that day. They had had no choice, though, no more

than we, but to go on, for once having seen the vision of the day that is to be there is no way left except to fight for it with all the courage one can rally, come the morning." Bravo!

MUST RELIGION BE DISCARDED ?

By Kenneth Leslie

The Associated Press reports that Moscow's *Trud* has published a letter from an 87-year old Ukrainian Baptist who said that as a rule believers in religion were more kindly disposed than non-believers and asked what harm a believer could do to communism anyway. *Trud* answered firmly, according to the report, "The teachings of communism are incompatible with religion."

This looks like a head-on clash and we cannot help wondering if the editor of *Trud* ever heard of Thomas Munzer and if the ancient Baptist ever heard of Rasputin. In looking through the teachings and proverbs which have sifted down to us from the leaders of the great religions of the world we find a common evaluation. It is the value placed on man by man in the word "comrade." Call it friendship, love, kinship, what you will, it is at the heart and beginning of every great faith, however diluted it became later and covered with accidental accretions of theology or superstition and betrayed by institutional greed.

As Mao Tse-tung told Anna Louise Strong, "You can call communism a religion if you want to, the religion of serving man."

There are dialectics in religion as in everything else that develops. One of them moves between heaven and earth, between fantasy and reality. As it moves towards fantasy the priest is its spokesman, as it faces reality the prophet speaks.

The religion which Marx and Engels attacked was the religion of fantasy. In fact they themselves may be said to have been spokesmen of prophetic religion. In Engel's history of "The Peasant War in Germany" he was compelled by his regard for the truth to pay homage to the Anabaptists who fought on the side of the robbed and insulted peasants against their oppressors both Roman Catholic pope and Protestant prince.

Marx castigated the imperial and bourgeois Christianity which had justified slavery and serfdom and capitalism and forgot to praise the Christianity which had inspired revolt against that other christianity. He threw it all out and threw out all religion with it. By so doing he placed revolutionary religionists in an impossible situation. They must condemn the religion of their fathers, a religion which had taught them universal brotherhood and had enlisted them on the side of the messianic proletariat, or,

if they found themselves unable to do this, they must be excluded from revolutionary activity or at best be kept at a distance and under suspicion.

Moreover, and this was disastrous, these faithful developers of the prophetic message of their religion (including here all the great world religions) had the ground taken out from under them when they condemned the religion of capitalism as *unreal religion*. When, for instance, I attack a clergyman's hatred for Russia as being anti-Christian I find the rug pulled out from under my feet by the Marxist who says that the clergyman is not at all anti-Christian; he is quite characteristically Christian. It is this attitude which has consolidated the Christian Front of Protestants and Catholics. It is not true. It is bad tactics. It is bad strategy.

This is especially so today when all the enlightened and progressive forces in the world must get together and stay together in the face of the rapidly coalescing front of last-ditch fascism. Those elements of the anti-fascist front who are atheist must honestly embrace the theist elements and vice versa. For neither theism nor atheism is an essential to the struggle. Religion is not primarily theist nor atheist. Religion, as the prophets taught, is Mao's "serving mankind." It was always foolish and wrong to poke fun at theists or atheists. Today it is criminal.

This does not mean that we should refrain from attacking fascist churchmen. On the contrary. But the most effective attack on fascist churchmen is made by anti-fascist churchmen whose bona fides as churchmen must not be undermined by the suggestion that it is impossible for a churchman to be honestly anti-fascist. When we do undermine them we do the work of fascists for them. Many groups of socialist clergy could have been more effective but for the blanket condemnation of religion by the left.

One more reminder: We should remember that it is not only theism but atheism as well which is split wide open left and right. From Bertrand Russell all the way down to Max Eastman there is an army of anti-Soviet atheists. Neither atheism nor theism guarantee anything about a man's sympathies or political affiliations, G. K. Chesterton to the contrary notwithstanding. Read Matthew 25, verses 31-46. In this parable of the judgment of the nations neither theism nor atheism is mentioned as a qualification for cosmic approval, but only what Mao said, "serving mankind."

Can't we get together on this simple proposition?

I do not ask the Marxists to do anything more than be true to history which furnishes in all religions heroes of the peoples' struggle for dignity and bread and knowledge, heroes whose struggles have been consummated in the magnificent achievements of the communist revolutions and whose record can still give strength to those whose struggles are not yet done.

IS THE UNITED STATES RUNNING FROM JUSTICE?

The United States government is prosecuting John Powell, Sylvia Powell and Julian Schuman, American journalists formerly associated with the China Monthly Review, while depriving them of their rights to a fair trial.

This is the only reasonable conclusion to be drawn from the U.S. State Department announcement of April 4, turning down the request of the Powell's attorney, Mr. A. L. Wirin, that it negotiate a judicial assistance agreement with China to enable the court to avail itself of the evidence and testimony of witnesses necessary for the trial.

That such evidence and testimony are essential has been affirmed by the U.S. Federal Court in San Francisco before which the case is to come at the trial now set for July 14. The reports of fact and opinion for which the defendants are being charged with "sedition", on counts that threaten Powell with life imprisonment and his wife and Schuman with twenty years in prison each, refer largely to events in China. Their correspondence to fact can only be attested by evidence available in China. The American Court itself addressed an official request to the Chinese Ministry of Justice for judicial assistance in securing such evidence, and authorized Mr. Wirin's trip to China early this year to inform himself of their availability.

Judicial assistance agreements are recognized in international practice as essential for one country to obtain evidence from another country. The United States itself has entered into agreements of this nature with other countries, including the U.S.S.R. On this score, the State Department's statement that to negotiate or enter such an agreement with China would be "contrary to the established policy of the United States" does not hold water. Despite the non-existence of diplomatic relations between the two countries, the U.S. has in fact been negotiating with Chinese representatives at Geneva for more than two years.

It was at the 73rd meeting of the Sino-American ambassadorial talks in Geneva on December 12, 1957 that China's Ambassador **Wang Ping-nan**, proposed to the American representative that negotiations be begun at once for a judicial assistance agreement so that the request of the U.S. Court for judicial assistance for the Powell case could be officially considered and met. And it was the U.S. representative who refused to discuss the matter. In January, 1958, Chinese willingness to enter into such an agreement was stated to Mr. Wirin by Minister of Justice Shih Liang and in February it was reiterated by Premier Chou En-lai.

In the opinion of this journal the case of the Powells and Schuman is not only one of intimidatory prosecution for normal journalistic activity, and thus a violation of press freedom. It is an attempt to railroad the defendants to jail without giving them a chance to prove the truth of their own statements. In

fact, the "sedition" charge against the Powells and Schuman, who at all times spoke as Americans advocating American-Chinese friendship, is based entirely on their exposure and condemnation of U.S. acts and policies hostile to the Chinese and other Asian peoples. Now the same hostility is depriving them of their opportunity of a fair trial. The prosecution is a war-hysteria prosecution of journalists advocating peaceful and friendly relations between the United States and China and other Asian countries. This is an act against peace.

We appeal to all who value freedom of the press and friendship between peoples to redouble their efforts in support of the Powells and Schuman whom the United States government wants to martyr for their outspoken service to both these concepts.

FYKE FARMER'S PLEA

Government Under Law VS. Government By Prerogative Powers

The above is the fundamental issue raised by the petition filed May 5, 1958 by Fyke Farmer, Nashville attorney, seeking a Supreme Court review of the decisions of the lower federal courts in favor of the Government in his anti-Korean War Income Tax Case. The U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit recently affirmed the refusal of the district court to try the case on the merits upon the ground that the issues involved were "political."

The petition challenges the holding of the lower courts that the courts lack jurisdiction to inquire into decisions of the executive and legislative branches in the field of military and foreign policy. Farmer claims that the Supreme Court has the duty of deciding whether the Government's war activities since World War II (including the waging of the undeclared Korean War) are outside constitutional bounds and exceed limitations arising from the Kellogg-Briand Pact, the Atlantic Charter, the United Nations Charter and the Nuremberg International Law. He insists that no issues of fact are presented because the Government, by moving for judgment on the pleadings, has admitted that the facts upon which he predicates his legal claims are true.

At a time when many profound thinkers are urging "disengagement" from the expanded and complex military commitments of the Government made over the past decade, the issues presented to the Supreme Court in this case are of crucial importance. Farmer quotes the warning of the eminent American historian, the late Charles A. Beard, that the exigencies of the arms race make it "inexorable" that "constitutional and democratic government in the United States is at the end of its career." He earnestly

pleads with the Supreme Court to hold the government within the ancient landmarks of Liberty Under Law.

In the above-mentioned petition to the Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit Fyke Farmer said fatefully:

"This case may be the last and best chance to save the government of the people, by the people and for the people from being subverted into a military dictatorship. There are signs on the horizon indicating its coming, already bigger than a man's hand. Secretary Dulles' threats that the President, without consulting Congress, can strike back 'instantly' and 'massively' against any 'aggression' anywhere in 42 or more countries linked with the United States by military pacts in Europe, the Middle East, the Far East and the Americas resound around the world. And it has come to light that planes loaded with hydrogen bombs are taking off at the flash on the radar screen in distant parts of the world tuned for orders to drop their lethal load on Russian targets.

"Nothing but a decision of this Court upholding individual immunity from participation in and support of such madness can prevent the treaties made by this nation and international law, built up hardly a generation ago at so great a sacrifice, from being trampled under foot.

"From a heart weary and aching from twelve whole years of watching the arms race go on with mounting fury—a folly which nearly all those in positions of leadership, whether in office or outside of it, recognize and, indeed, admit but few will raise even a little finger to stop—petitioner pleads with the Court to let this case come on for hearing and argument. Remove not the ancient landmark of Liberty Against Government!

"Not for himself only does the petitioner make the plea, but for our children, and the children of our friends, and for all the young lives that are marching up from the gates of birth, pure and eager, with the morning sunshine on their faces. He pleads for help that these may be spared from the poisoning of the air they must breathe, the water they must drink, and the earth which must produce their food with our planning and preparing and testing more frightful and efficient ways to kill innocent people en masse.

"Hear the prayer of Walter Rauschenbusch:

"O Lord, since the first blood of Abel cried to thee from the ground that drank it, this earth of thine has been defiled with the blood of man shed by his brother's hand, and the centuries throb with the ceaseless horror of war. Ever the pride of kings and the covetousness of the strong have driven peaceful nations to slaughter. Ever the songs of the past and the pomp of armies have been used to inflame the passions of the people. Our spirit cries out to Thee in revolt against it, and we know that our righteous anger is answered by Thy holy wrath.

"Break Thou the spell of the enchantments that make the

nations drunk with the lust of battle and draw them on as willing tools of death. Grant us a quiet and steadfast mind when our own nation clamors for vengeance or aggression. Strengthen our sense of justice and our regard for the equal worth of peoples and races. Grant to the rulers of nations faith in the possibility of peace through justice, and grant to the common people a new and stern enthusiasm for the cause of peace . . .

"O Thou strong Father of all nations, draw all Thy great family together with an increasing sense of our common blood and destiny, that peace may come on earth at last, and Thy sun may shed its light rejoicing on a holy brotherhood of peoples."

Writing for "This Week" section of S. F. Chronicle, Oct. 13, 1957, Dr. Edward Teller tells how "We Must Win the H-war Before it Starts!" Teller is hardly to be trusted in advice on avoiding war with Socialist countries. In a discussion with Dr. Linus Pauling, he showed (as Pauling charged) intellectual dishonesty. At that time, Teller said the Tests must be continued because Russia's Khrushchev had told USA, "We will bury you!" K., however, hastened to add, in the very next sentence, that he referred to the Socialist economic system, which he maintained to be superior to Monopoly Capitalism. Those who confine their reading to stories about baseball, and the "comics", may be influenced by Teller, one presumes.

Teller is motivated by an intense hatred of the social system now existing in Russia—as Pauling charged. Teller says, "We must overcome the popular notion that nuclear weapons are more immoral than conventional weapons." "Certainly, we always should use our most effective weapons against our enemies." Or those that the ruling Capitalists *tell us*, in their corrupt press, are enemies.

"I have the feeling that such a terrifying all-out conflict will never come, because it would be too disastrous to both sides." That's what was said before World Wars I and II. Powerful arch-reactionaries are saying openly, that it would be better to destroy the world than live under Socialism. 9,000 scientists say, Stop the Tests. A few say, Keep on with them; and if you boil down their reasons, it is for precisely that idea, that Socialism is worse than Death.

Certain nuclear weapons, says Teller, would be used in a "limited nuclear war."

But present technology, says Major Alexander P. de Seversky in "No More 'Little' Wars" (S. F. Chronicle, Mar. 23, 1958), "makes a nuclear limited war idiotic. The only other possibility is that such a deadlock would explode into all-out war—which brings us right back to my primary conclusion *that this is the only kind of war for which the United States must prepare.*"

In thus preparing for general ruin, de Seversky holds that the plans for reorganizing U.S. military forces *do not go far enough!* He attempts to smother cries of "totalitarianism" by saying that

might be true under a dictator; but under the control of a President and Secretary of Defense, and under the control of Congress, it is quite another affair.

—And what were Harry Truman and Louis Johnson of the China Lobby but dictators, when they shoved the country into war on Korea by their mere ipse dixit, without even asking permission of Congress as they were legally required to do? And the rubber-stamp Congress, almost entirely elected by Big Money, went right along with the fraud! How could anything have been worse in an acknowledged Dictatorship?

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

"It ("Where Your Heart is Beating") is *inspiring, beautiful, pleading, challenging.*"—E. H. Californis.

"Thank you for publishing James L. Brewer's "The Cold War Begins to Thaw". The items contained in his article are not to be found in any publication available to us. Your article on Bishop Bereczky and the World Council of Churches is appalling!! How long can the WCC sink?"

—P.B.W. Saskatchewan

"After spending November in the USSR, we went to Peoples China for December and back to Moscow for January. An amazing experience. This entire area is establishing an alternative culture pattern which promises to equal, excel and replace the traditional pattern of western civilization. As Steffens said: I have seen the future and it works.

"Equally important is the immense prestige enjoyed by USSR and Peoples China in Asia and Africa. At the other end of the prestige curve, the name of the West and especially of NATO is 'mud.'

"The new world is in the making, whether or not you and I see it.

"Good cheer."

—Scott Nearing

"The article 'The Cold War Begins to Thaw', is both encouraging and informative, and I found it a real help. But most of all, I am grateful to you for your stirring and clear-visioned poems under the title, 'Moscow's Measure'. 'Forty Years'—superb tribute to the indomitable spirit and devotion of that glorious venture that has saved the rest of the world from Fascism's ferocious tyranny. And thank you over and over again for these so-much-needed words, not only timely for the present, but valiantly predicting a Victory of victories!—

'History yields one man to measure them by,
One name in the human story,

The carpenter of Nazareth,
Incendiary of love,
Whose love lit trains of fire
To burn all empires down.'

"Yes, this that you foresee *will* come true for all the world. Christ is theirs as well as ours, and with the triumphant blending of His love and sacrifice with the love and sacrifice of those whom you so eloquently praise, there will dawn the era of peace and brotherhood for all mankind in joy which will fulfill the hopes and visions of all the prophets—including yourself. My heartfelt thanks and congratulations to you for your noble witness to the truth of truths!"

(Rev.) E. W., Boston

"The March-April issue of the 'New Christian' is unique in its prophetic spirit and excitingly stimulating to one's views of the new world order. I enjoy all issues but this one was super.

"One can form an opinion and know inwardly that the opinion is right and noble, but may feel alone amid numerous vociferous expressed opinions . . . then to read James Brewer's exciting collections of expressed opinions by so many leaders and creators of public opinion across the world . . . you find 'your heart is beating' and you are a part of the 'march into the light'. We think alike.

"I believe your 'Moscow's Measure' will be and is an imperishable. It is history set to music. Reporting set in poetry. The music of the spheres is heard in its cadences. The Genesis story of the birth of a New Day in the social order. Humanity's climb out of ecclesiastic and imperialistic bondage . . . 'March! march! into the light—children pleading—time is fleeting. Forward Now! . . . The day grows bright. Left! left! Where your heart is beating!'"

(Rev.) R.R.S., Indiana



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